

Please amend claim 2 as follows:

2. (Amended) A socket according to claim 1, further including pressing members which are formed between the two slide plates and interposed between said pair of resilient pieces for applying resiliently deforming forces to the corresponding resilient pieces at substantially symmetric locations during opening-out of the contact portions of each of said contact pins.

REMARKS

Applicant has amended claims 1 and 2. Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to the claims are supported by the application as originally filed and do not contain any new matter. Accordingly, the Office Action will be discussed in terms of the claims as amended.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 2 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite. Applicant has amended claims 1 and 2 and respectfully submits that they are now clear and definite. Therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that claims 1 and 2 now comply with the requirements of 35 USC 112, second paragraph.

The Examiner has rejected claims 1 and 2 as being anticipated by Ohshima, stating that Ohshima discloses a socket comprising a socket body 1, a plurality of contact pins 31 disposed on the socket body 1, a rest face, a pair of resilient pieces 31c, 31d having contact portions 31f, two slide plates 11, 12 and an upper operating member 3.

In reply thereto, Applicant has carefully reviewed Ohshima and respectfully submits that elements 11 and 12 are not slide plates. In particular, they are the first and second link members of the x-shaped link mechanism 10 (see col. 4, lines 14-20). Accordingly, Applicant respectfully submits that elements 11 and 12 do not slide and are therefore not two slide plates. In addition, Applicant respectfully submits that the only plate in Ohshima which slides is the moving plate 2. However, there is only a single sliding plate in Ohshima and not two as is required by Applicant's invention.

In view of the above, therefore, Applicant respectfully submits that Ohshima does not
thereby